

# Census 2011: Children and Young People in Queensland

## Key points:

- Children and young people aged 0-24 years accounted for 33.8% of Queensland's usual resident population in 2011.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents accounted for 88,077 or 6.0% of Queensland's 0-24 year olds.
- A larger proportion of male than female children and young people required assistance with a core activity<sup>1</sup> in both the 0-14 and 15-24 year age groups.
- The proportion of Queensland's 15-24 year olds who were attending an educational institution increased from 43.7% in 2006 to 46.5% in 2011.

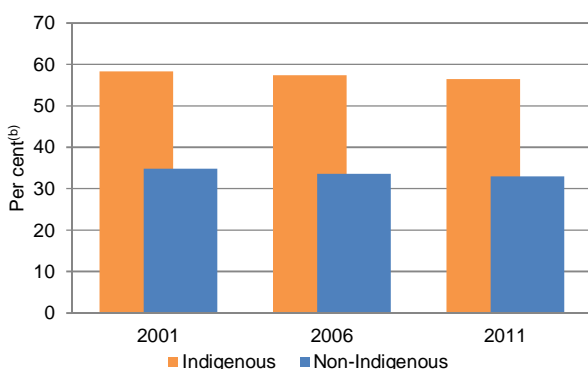
## 1. Population

On Census night 2011, Queensland had 4,332,739 usual residents. Of these, 20.2% were aged 0-14 years (875,860 people) and 13.6% (587,763 people) were aged 15-24 years. Usual residents who identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin accounted for 88,077 or 6.0% of Queensland's 0-24 year olds.

The number of non-Indigenous children and young people (0-24 year olds) in Queensland increased by 106,400 (or 8.9%) in the five years to 2011. While the rate of growth in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 0-24 year olds was higher, at 20.3%, their number increased by 14,844 over the same period (Figure 1).

Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population had a particularly young age profile. In 2011, children and young people aged 0-24 years accounted for 56.5% of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents, compared with 32.9% of non-Indigenous residents (Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Children and young people<sup>(a)</sup>, Queensland**



(a) Excludes persons where Indigenous status not stated.

(b) As a proportion of persons by Indigenous status.

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing: 2001 (U05), 2006 (B07) and 2011 (B07)

<sup>1</sup>The Core Activity Need for Assistance variable was developed to measure the number of people with a profound or severe disability. Refer to ABS 2901.0, *Census Dictionary*, 2011.

## 2. Education

There were 829,031 children and young people attending an educational institution in Queensland in 2011<sup>2</sup>. This included 50,615 people attending pre-school, 379,779 attending primary school, 258,553 attending secondary school<sup>3</sup>, 32,664 attending a technical and further education institution and 98,121 attending a university or other education institution.

The proportion of young people aged 15-24 years in Queensland who were attending an educational institution<sup>4</sup> increased from 43.7% in 2006 to 46.5% in 2011. A higher proportion of females (49.5%) than males (43.6%) aged 15-24 years were attending an educational institution in 2011.

A lower proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 15-24 year olds reported attending an educational institution in 2011 (33.0%) than non-Indigenous people of the same age (49.6%).

Of the 273,433 people aged 15-24 years attending an educational institution, 32,664 people reported they were attending a technical or further education institution (including TAFE). Just over half of those (56.6%) studied part-time (Figure 2). The proportion of TAFE students aged 15-24 years studying part-time decreased from 62.0% in 2006 to 56.6% in 2011.

The number of 15-24 year olds who reported attending a university or other tertiary institution increased by 25.2% to 98,121 in the five years to 2011. The majority of these students (88.1%) studied full-time. The proportion of university students aged 15-24 studying part-time decreased from 12.7% in 2006 to 11.9% in 2011.

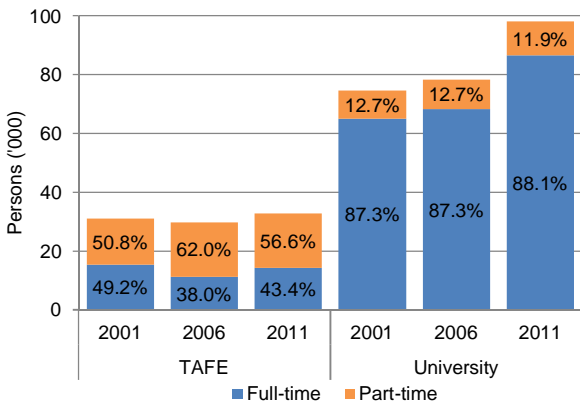
<sup>2</sup> Excludes persons who did not state which type of education institution they were attending. Of all respondents to this question (all age groups), almost a quarter (24.3%) did not state which type of educational institution they were attending.

<sup>3</sup> Figure may include a small number of people aged 25 years and older.

<sup>4</sup> Excludes persons who did not state which type of educational institution they were attending.



Figure 2: Enrolment status of students<sup>(a)</sup>



(a) Includes 15-24 year olds only. Excludes persons attending an educational institution where full/part-time student status was not stated and type of educational institution attending was not stated.

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing: 2001 (custom data), 2006 (B14) and 2011 (B15)

The number of dependent students<sup>5</sup> aged 15-24 years increased by 14.7% from 153,842 in 2006 to 176,480 in 2011.

### 3. Income

In 2011, 8.8% of females aged 20-24 years (12,942) earned \$1,000 or more per week compared with 17.7% of males the same age (26,097).

### 4. Families

#### Partnerships

At the time of the 2011 Census, almost three-quarters (74.0%) of 20-24 year olds were not married. However, almost one-fifth (19.5%) of 20-24 year olds were living in a de facto marriage and 6.6% were living in a registered marriage.

#### Children

At the time of the 2011 Census, 77.0% of 20-24 year old females had no children<sup>6</sup>, 10.3% had one child and 4.5% had two children.

#### Grandparent families

In Queensland, on Census night 2011, 3,474 children aged 0-14 years were living in grandparent families<sup>7</sup>, that is, in households with a grandparent present, but no resident parent.

In 2011, 1.9% of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (1,050 children) were found to be

living in a grandparent family, compared with 0.3% of non-Indigenous children (2,298 children)<sup>8</sup>.

### 5. Wellbeing

In 2011, there were 18,163 people aged 0-14 years and 10,493 people aged 15-24 years who needed assistance with a core activity<sup>1</sup> in Queensland. Of 0-14 year olds who needed assistance, two-thirds (66.6%) were male. Similarly, among 15-24 year olds needing assistance, 61.1% were male.

Children and young people represented 14.9% of all people in Queensland who required assistance with a core activity in 2011 compared with 13.8% in 2006.

### 6. Community engagement

#### Unpaid assistance

In Queensland, 4.4% of all young people aged 15-24 years provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability in the two weeks prior to Census night in 2011. More than half (56.9%) of those who provided assistance in this age group were female.

#### Volunteer work

In the 12 months prior to the 2011 Census, 16.2% of all 15-24 year olds had undertaken voluntary work for an organisation or group in Queensland. There were 95,256 volunteers in Queensland aged 15-24 years, representing 14.8% of all volunteers in Queensland. More than half of young volunteers were female (55.5%).

For more information, please see OESR's *Queensland Regional Profiles* and *Queensland Regional Database* at [www.oesr.qld.gov.au](http://www.oesr.qld.gov.au).

All data in this report were sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Censuses of Population and Housing ([www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)).

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<sup>5</sup> Refer to ABS 2901.0, *Census Dictionary*, 2011.

<sup>6</sup> The proportions stated here refer to 'children ever born'. However, 6.7% of 20-24 year old women did not provide a response to this question. This variable counts the number of live births to women aged 15 or older.

<sup>7</sup> The grandparent family category identifies families where there are only grandparents and grandchildren living in the family.

<sup>8</sup> These proportions were calculated using a denominator which included only children (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous respectively) able to be identified as living in a family on Census night.